

FEB 6 2003  
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 138  
BY McCARTHY and SMITH

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act revising the criteria for mandatory reporting of child  
2 abuse.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 138

1 Section 1. Section 232.69, subsection 1, paragraph b,  
2 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2003, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 Any of the following persons who, in while performing  
5 within the scope of professional practice or in their  
6 employment responsibilities, ~~examines, attends, counsels, or~~  
7 ~~treats a child and reasonably believes~~ has reasonable cause to  
8 believe a child has suffered abuse:

9 EXPLANATION

10 This bill revises the criteria for mandatory reporting of  
11 child abuse.

12 Under current law, the mandatory reporting requirement  
13 applies to various professionals and caregivers who examine,  
14 attend, counsel, or treat a child in the scope of professional  
15 practice or employment responsibilities and reasonably  
16 believes a child has suffered abuse. The bill expands the  
17 circumstances under which reporting is required by striking  
18 the requirement for the reporter to examine, attend, counsel,  
19 or treat a child in their professional practice or employment  
20 responsibilities in order to be required to report abuse.

21 Current law provides that a mandatory reporter's knowing  
22 and willful failure to report abuse is a simple misdemeanor.

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